



## **ERASMUS POLICY STATEMENT**

Our Institution, "I.E.S. TONY GALLARDO" is located in The Canary Islands, more specifically in Gran Canaria.

Our institution includes different professional areas of High Studies, and for the next year these courses will be extended. This institution has had a successful history of experiences and exchanges, both internationally and nationally and we would like to continue to offer a one-time opportunity for many of our students. The vast majority of our students have never been abroad, and some have never visited the mainland or even other surrounding Islands

Our offer plan on Vocational Education and Training Courses embraces a wide curricular catalogue of training that matches various specific and real demands for qualified professionals. However, and considering that this field is always changing, we are constantly updating our programmes, in order to satisfy the needs of the professional demands that our students will cope with.

In order to expand new limits for our outgoing and incoming students, the coordination of International Relationships is working hard on the following strategy.

Before the merge our school experienced with a nearby High School, the IES The Department of Sports and Physical Activity, had been participating in the Erasmus Program since 2012.

This department has had various positive experiences in Erasmus Charter for Higher Educación, (in its previous institution) and the students who have obtained scholarships have fulfilled their expectations in several European countries, such as Malta, Ireland, the Netherlands Germany and Italy.

Apart from that, our institution has been participating in European projects since 2005, with several other different projects, among which stand out:

-“Comenius: Sustainable Islands”. This project, which was coordinated by our institution, was awarded with a Success Story badge, and Good Practice Example (<http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/projects/eplus-project-details-page/?nodeRef=workspace://SpacesStore/b9fd95fd-2d4f-41a9-99e8-61e552102477>).

-“Water in Our Life”.(Comenius, 2013) (<https://wiol13laspalmas.wordpress.com/category/home>)

-“Trail of extinct and active volcanoes, earthquakes across Europe (Erasmus+), a project which is still being carried out (<http://www.volcano-erasmusplus.eu>).

Our Institution's **general strategy** goes along with the priorities of the European Education Area

**A) Selection of partners (collaborating companies).** This section is developed through four types of intervention.

- I) Firstly, through a generic search for companies in our professional sector by means of a systematic process of global contacting, considering the country, region and sector.
- II) Secondly, we have a possibility to make connections through information interchange with the local institutions that also belong to the mobility program. For this, specific meetings



aimed at exchanging information from databases with collaborating institutions are established.

III) Thirdly, we can make new connections through professional relationship between the members of working staff and various European institutions of the same sector. These contacts will provide us with new intermediaries.

IV) Finally, new connections will be made as a result of personal initiative by the students taking part in the project, who are encouraged to contact companies of particular interest to them.

#### B) Geographical intervention area:

The final choice will depend on positive reports generated from the study of three different areas the staff in our institution have been divided into:

1. Areas that are within the Erasmus project proposal. They must belong to the European Union and other associate countries.
2. Areas where there is a special interest in the fields of training of our institution and areas where there is the largest number of educational institutions related to our academic profile.

#### C) Main objectives of our institution:

We see that our Erasmus participation will fit into our internationalisation and modern strategy by helping us achieve these objectives.

1. To improve students' hiring prospects, nationally and internationally.
2. To improve the level of professional qualification of the teachers through the exchange of experiences, thus passing on these new skills to the students.
3. To widen sectors of education for both, students and teachers.
4. To expand the relationships between our institutions and enterprises from other countries.
5. To improve transparency and academic recognition of studies.
6. To improve second language skills
7. To improve our Advanced Vocational Training, strengthening the European dimension by encouraging transnational cooperation between higher education institutions and enterprises, boosting European mobility of students, teachers and staff.
8. For our Students who finish their training courses, their qualifications will be improved, and their possibilities to get a high standard jobs will be increased.
9. This project is to improve the quality of academic training education given to our students. At the same time, we are improving the quality of their curriculum in order to make it easier for them to achieve the new occupational skills at local, national and European levels.
10. The professional sector of our local environment, everything related to our courses will be improved through the contribution of the various sectors of education, business, professional and institutional. We also want to encourage cooperation between the different companies to develop new training approaches and methods of acquiring knowledge and skills through exchange of new practices.



11. Improve the level of professional qualification of the teachers through the exchange of experiences, thus making it possible the transfer of this improved teaching skills to the students, offering them more resources for a better quality education.
12. To expand the relationships between educational institutions and businesses of the other countries. This will facilitate future projects in which young people from the Canary Islands could do their traineeship and exchanges in this professional sector.
13. To improve our Advanced Vocational Training, strengthening the European dimension by encouraging transnational cooperation between higher education institutions and enterprises, boosting European mobility of students, teachers and staff.
14. To improve transparency and academic recognition of studies.
15. To facilitate the development of innovative practices in training as well as its transparency.
16. To promote the establishment of European networks with companies and with other institutions through bilateral agreements.